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DECEMBER 1989

Confrontation and Healing Page 2

A Gentle Nudge Page 6

A Magnificent Specimen Page 12

Memoirs of a Bastard Angel Page 26

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RELATIONSHIPS

by D. Preston Dillon

In part one of our exploration of abuse in relationships, we examined the difficult and painful experience of the victim. With this understanding, we may be able to set a path for self-healing, create safe boundaries, and find more loving ways of being in relationship. In part two, we examined the inner terror of the abuser and how the cycle of abuse may be perpetuated in their "nurturing" relationships. This, our final section on abuse, will deal with confrontation and healing.

Responsibility

Some things are unforgivable, and some individuals will never take responsibility for their behavior toward you. They may blame you and continue to deny their behavior. The phony victim may never acknowledge their wounded past but continue to require others to meet their deep gulf of unmet needs. The abuser may not change their attitude or hurtful behavior and continue blaming the victim as the cause of the stress. In both cases, anger, self-denial, and hurt destroy self-esteem. Woundedness deepens. Chances for a whole, loving, nurturing relationship are diminished. Pain, distortions, and denial may be perpetuated by social gossip and trashing that only serves to continue injuries. The cycle of abuse is carried out into the community and may perpetuate the isolation, alienation, and oppression of the gay/lesbian lifestyle.

You can accept responsibility for your feelings, changing your behavior and your own reaction to things, but:

1. You do not have to accept responsibility for the bad things that were done to you; and
2. You cannot change others.

Forgiveness

Some psychologies, new-age ideas, and religions will ask you to quickly forgive and move on. As if you could just forget the enormous hurt, anger, or guilt you feel! A key point they often forget to add is the essential process involved in grief. You cannot forgive if it is not in your best interest--if it keeps you stuck in having to figure out what you can do to fix the other. This lets them off the hook and sends a message that what they did was not so terrible. That is phony and does not help in healing. Before forgiveness comes truth. It is an awareness of the deep pain, the importance of time in healing, and the painstaking process of sorting out the complex rage, reactions, denial, projections, manipulation, and hurt involved in the cycle. Some of this belongs to you and some of it belongs to the other. Forgiveness can transform woundedness with love if the other takes responsibility for the damage they created and the wounds they created in you, asks what it is they can do to help, makes reparations, and makes up for the damage. The couple can then move toward mutual acceptance and healing. Both move on leaving behind the need to justify, condemn, or revenge. This cannot be accomplished without clarity and truth.

If you are left without their willingness to take responsibility, forgiveness can still come when you are alone. You have to be willing to go through the hell process to come out more aware of yourself, less defensive, and whole. Forgiveness is not merely a thought, but a deep, honest, vulnerable emotion that carries a great deal of power to transform.

Confrontation

We all do things that hurt or manipulate others. Your partner may not be able or want to hear you. The abuse may be their only defense to hold together their fragile self-esteem. Confrontation is not intended to make the abuser change their behavior, although that can be an outcome, but rather confrontation is intended to reclaim self-worth, empower your sense of self and to validate your perception. Confrontation is intended to overcome the FEAR. Once you confront, an enormous amount of energy can be freed up within you. Confrontation frees you to make important decisions in your life. No matter how long ago it happened, the experience of abuse is as powerful in the present. When we go back and get emotional justice, we go in and take back our power.

There is danger in confrontation. You will know right away if the other will respond to you. If in a brief time the cycle of abuse continues, you may only be safe if you get out. The other may try to say that if you were more loving that would solve the issue; the fact is, the more you try to meet the other's needs, the more you repress your feelings, needs, friends, and activities. It is not loving to ask someone to do things that decrease their self-esteem or limit their growth or ask you to put them first before you. At some point in time, you must realize that the abuser or phony victim would react to anyone the same way.

Continued on Page Four

PATLAR

Voice of Gay America

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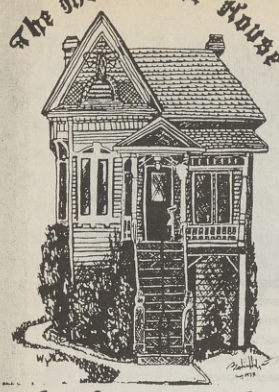

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RELATIONSHIPS . . . Continued From Page Two

It is important to realize that their outbursts, attacks, anger, or hostility is their stuff. Anyone becomes a victim to their ways unless they have no needs, feelings, beliefs, friends, or activities of their own.

It takes courage to confront abuse and personal pain. These are two separate processes that lead to healing on an emotional and physical level. When we confront our personal pain and begin to sort out what is ours and what belongs to others, we become clear. We can then choose to confront others. The first step is to identify people and situations in your life that make you feel inadequate, shameful, guilty, or bad about yourself. A key to processing grief, anger, and hurt is to get in touch with the pieces that we hold on to that make us feel less empty. Anger and hurt may feel better than emptiness and loneliness. We have to be willing to accept those aspects of ourselves that we project onto others to keep some phony sense of pride. Wholeness comes when we can embrace our dark side and the positive, wonderful qualities that make each of us unique.

You have a right, if you choose, to confront those who are/were abusive. There are many ways to express your position, but it should be well thought out to avoid blaming, manipulation, retaliation, or diminishing approaches. You can write a letter or ask for a mediation or talk to them directly. If they are dead, not reachable, or unwilling, or if it would not be in your best interest to dialogue with them, then you may need to process your pain with a sympathetic other.

Include the following when dealing with the abuser:

A. This is what you did or do to me;
B. This is how it made or makes me feel;
C. This is how it affected or affects my life;
D. And this is what I want from you now.

Work with an objective or sympathetic other to keep your statements clear.

Community

We all carry our wounded self into each relationship. The relationship can set the stage for healing or further destruction. In abusive relationships, both partners are left with deep resentments, rage, hurt, and fear. In the case of gay/lesbian relationships, there are more damages to repair. For example, where does a male victim of abuse go if he is being abused by a male abuser? What kind of police or court report can he make? Where does a male abuser go for support--to a group for heterosexual abusive men? The kind of alienation that would meet these men only furthers the oppressive rage they are already feelings. What of the lesbian woman who cannot control her abusive behavior? She may be ostracized or camouflaged by the women's community. She cannot seek help in a group of all-male heterosexual abusers. The woman who feels she is threatened by her lesbian lover--where does she go if the women's community does not recognize her love as abusive? How is she able to continue to engage in the women's community if her lover continues to be there? Where do homosexual men and women go to even discuss the fears and limitations without also having to "fight" for equal protection, help, and support?

There is very little understanding in the community about abuse, its causes, the process of addiction entwined with abuse or ways to stay sane and safe. At this point, both the abuser and the target are victims of internal rage, fear, social alienation, and lack of sympathy from community, family, churches, legal process, and often friends.

We must release the bitterness. Healing releases the bitterness. If we hold onto the past, we stay afraid of the past, so we must learn how to heal. We can start by acknowledging the pain, reclaim our ugly projections, and seek the hands of those others ready to grow.

Miller

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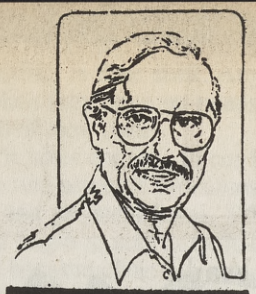

RALPH
and there is more...

"Yeah, I know all about it!" is an almost automatic reply to any new idea that is offered to us. Or, if not that, then perhaps "It's bullshit." Or, "preposterous," or "ridiculous," or ultimately "I certainly do not believe that!"

You see, it's thought "smart" to always know, to have an immediate or ready response to anything that comes up--or comes along. And, every one of us has some of that, even though we may be unaware of this disposition. And, there's a name for it, and it is usually a quality attributed to God, and that name is omniscience--"all knowing." I'd like to gently nudge you to take a look at your own disposition in this direction (and I at mine, as well!) for it can be most rewarding to find ways to put that tendency on hold and, in the process, open many new doors for ourselves.

If we start at the outer limits of human knowledge--as to vastness of the universe, the cosmos and beyond, it should be readily apparent that we do not know everything that there is to be known--and by "we" I mean not just you and I, but the scientists--the astronomers and astro-physicists who seek to penetrate and know those vastnesses. As I like to put it, at most what is "known" is no more than a tissue-thin biopsy slice of all that is. Indeed, I just saw in the ***New York Times*** that scientists now think that as much as 95% of space is simply occupied, but not seen. That puts a bit of a squelch on our presumption of omniscience, doesn't it? Thus, science in many ways is saying that we do not know what we do not yet know.

The same is true as atomic physicists explore more and more deeply into matter, for they find a continual series of things in "infinite regress" with no apparent end. And, even more shocking, they also find that the behavior of the infinitely small particles of matter (and anti-matter) are totally unpredictable; they are "indeterminate."

Hence, if we look at what happens as we explore outward or inward from what we most readily and casually think we "know," we find an infinite vastness of what is not-yet-known.

But, you see, I would go even further, for my observation about what we know of the "Is"--what all of these explorations of science (or religion, philosophy, theology) have as yet (or will ever) come to know--is the "biopsy slice" I referred to above!

It was Socrates, more than two thousand years ago who said it; I am not coming up with a new idea, but simply a reminder. "If I am the wisest of men (as the Oracle at Delphi had supposedly said) then I am wise in that I know that I do not know." That statement could well be taken as a motto by any of us, and it will allow the possibility for fresh seeing into new realms, new concepts, new possibilities. You may well be familiar with the expression "a closed mind," and know that we use that to speak of someone whom we find to be stubborn, closed to any new ideas or information, and often rigidly "wrong" in their position or point of view.

Well, may I gently suggest to you that both you and I are more often than not limited by a "closed mind." Whenever anything new or strange or previously not a part of our own

Continued on Page Eight

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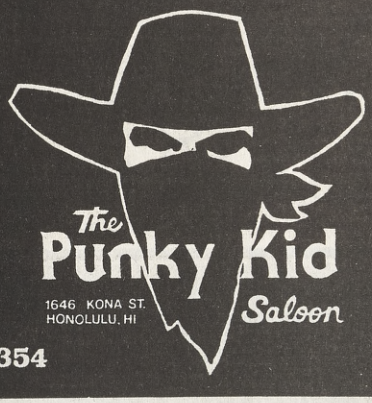

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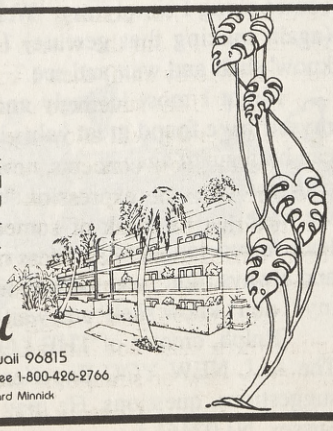

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MORE . . . Continued from Page Six

past or present experience comes up and we immediately react with either, "Well, I know that is true!" or "Well, I certainly know that that is not true!" we are manifesting our own closed-mind syndrome.

Oh, you may think, then how can I function? How can I find my way through the maze of everyday, practical reality if I cannot "know" some things are true?

Well, as a philosopher, my mentor, John Dewey, had a proposal in this regard, for he suggested that we consider all truth to be hypothetical . . . that it simply be an hypothesis on which we continue to operate only so long as that hypothesis was validated by the continuing successful "test in experience." So then, once it was no longer validated, we could just simply release that hypothesis and choose another one, test it, and then let that stand as being true--but only for so long as it continued to be confirmed.

Ah, did that stir some thinking out there? What a difference in foreign policy that would have made over the last forty or fifty years if our leadership had held to the notion that a particular course of action, diplomatically, strategically, militarily were to be pursued only so long as it produced valid, confirmable results. How many atomic warheads would we have built? How many troops sent to Vietnam? How much funding for the Contras? And on and on! (Granted, accurate, unbiased "information" provided to leaders is crucial.)

Well, it only takes a bit of musing to see how truly revolutionary this notion of hypothetical truth would be, if actually put into practice in the world. Or, reflecting back, how indeed Socrates was wise, and perhaps even "the wisest of men!"

Yet, for you and me in everyday life, does this have application at all; and if so, just how?

Well, some years back, I had the good fortune of inviting a nationally known psychic, Etel DeLoach, to come and speak to my college classes, and she told of all kinds of wild and wonderful things from her own experience and held my students wide-eyed in amazement at the things she had known and experienced. But then, as they plied her with questions about UFOs and ghosts and all kinds of things, physical and meta-physical, she had a response which I've never forgotten and which I would commend to you. She said something like this:

"Yes, there are a lot of very strange and unusual things happening now-a-days, and I must confess that some of them really sound pretty outrageous and impossible even to me."

"But," she continued, "I have developed this sort of 'I don't know' shelf in my mind" (and here she held up both hands and made a gesture) "and whenever one of those things comes along I simply say: 'Well, I don't know about that! and (again making that gesture) I simply put it on the 'I don't know' shelf and wait and see."

Might I most lovingly and gently suggest to you that I myself have found great value in that shelf, and that you and I can both guard against "snap judgments" and "limited options" and "fossilization" if we will simply remember, hereafter, that we have an 'I don't know' shelf in our minds and gradually learn to no longer say: "That's absurd" or "That's absolutely and always right" and instead, simply say: "OK. I'll put that on my 'I don't know shelf' and wait and see."

[Ralph, creator of THE LOVING BROTHERHOOD and The ALL NEW YOU Experience welcomes your comments, suggestions, questions. He may be contacted at PO Box 556, Sussex, NJ 07461.]

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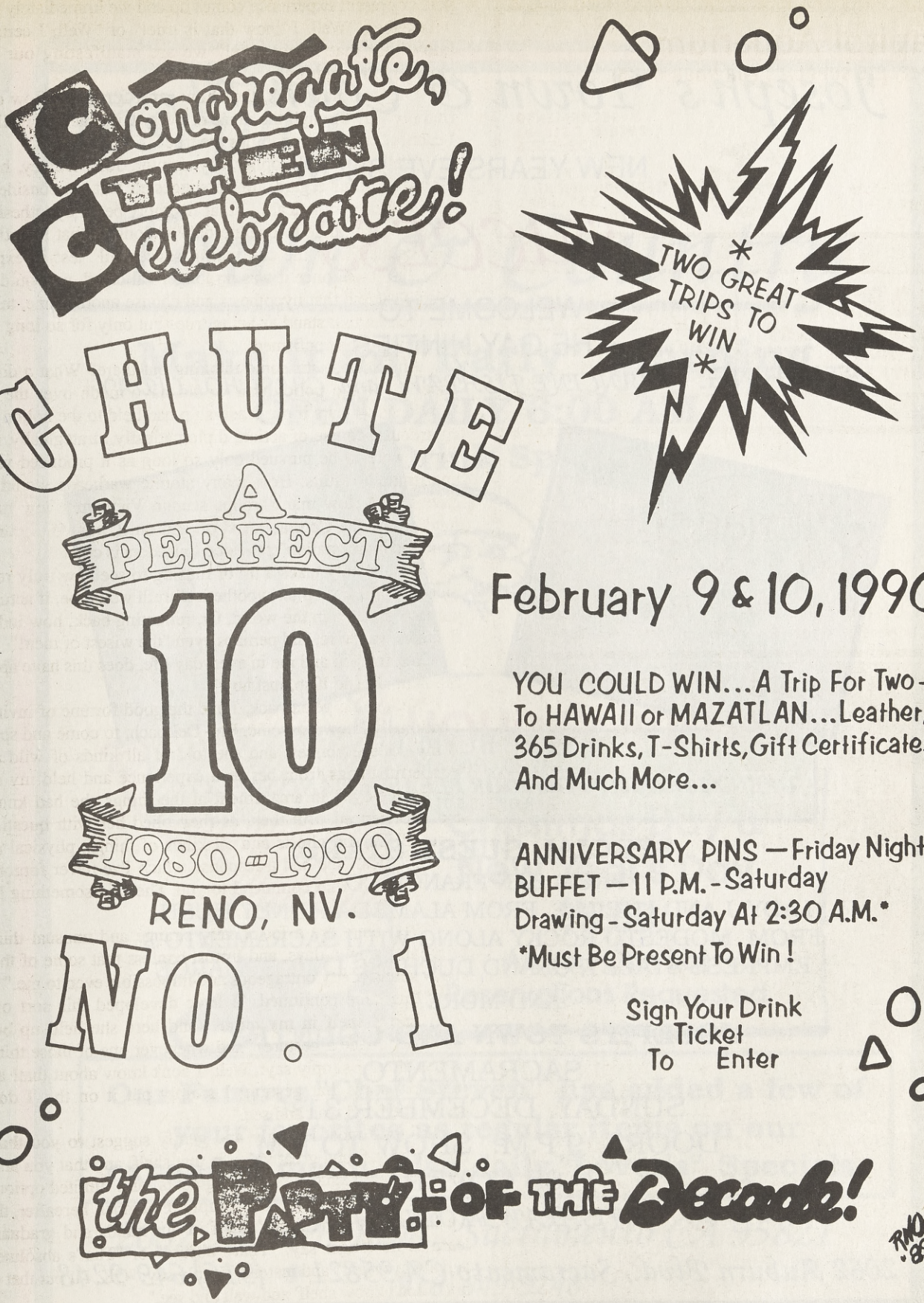
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GAY HISTORY

by Terry Boughner, Ph.D.

King Edward II of England (1284-1327) could not have lived at a worse time. The Church, which informed and controlled European thought and society, had defined homosexuality as heresy of the rankest kind. Gays had two options: To hide or be killed. And Edward was gay, very gay indeed.

That he was one of "us" there is no doubt whatsoever. The sources, Holinshed and other contemporary chroniclers, make this clear. Modern historians, such as Thomas Costain in his **The Three Edwards**, admit it, albeit with faint effort to hide their disgust. So, we are not dealing with the question, "Was he?"; only with the problem of approaching the man himself.

Physically, Edward was a magnificent specimen. Tall, with red-gold hair setting off fine, sharp features, his body rippled with muscle. In those days, fashion dictated short, close-fitting coats which left the legs exposed in skin-tight hose. Edward had full, well-rounded thighs.

His first love was Piers Gaveston. In contrast to Edward's proud, blond good looks, Piers was deliciously dark. They met when Edward, then Prince of Wales, was 14 and Piers 16. Gaveston had come to England from France, appointed by Edward's father, Edward I, to be a companion to his son. As it turned out, Piers became companion, then friend, and finally lover.

Sadly, neither youth was very wise. They spent money like water and, in that homophobic time, made absolutely no effort to be discreet about what they were to each other. The great barons of the realm, many of whom were nearly as rich and powerful as the king himself, were outraged. To anger them even further, the two young men made fun of them to their faces and called them names such as "Old Goat's Breath" and "Pig Face," among others.

When the king heard what was going on, there was a showdown of the first order. He beat his son senseless. Galveston he sent back to France while setting up a marriage between Edward and Isabelle, daughter of King Philip the Fair of France. Then, Edward I died and Edward II ascended the throne.

Edward II's first act was to summon his lover home and fall into his arms in front of everyone. At the same time, however, he did go ahead with the marriage; but if Isabelle thought she would replace Piers, she was in for a sad awakening. Edward would have nothing to do with her, and she wrote to her father that "I am the most wretched of wives. The king is an entire stranger to my bed."

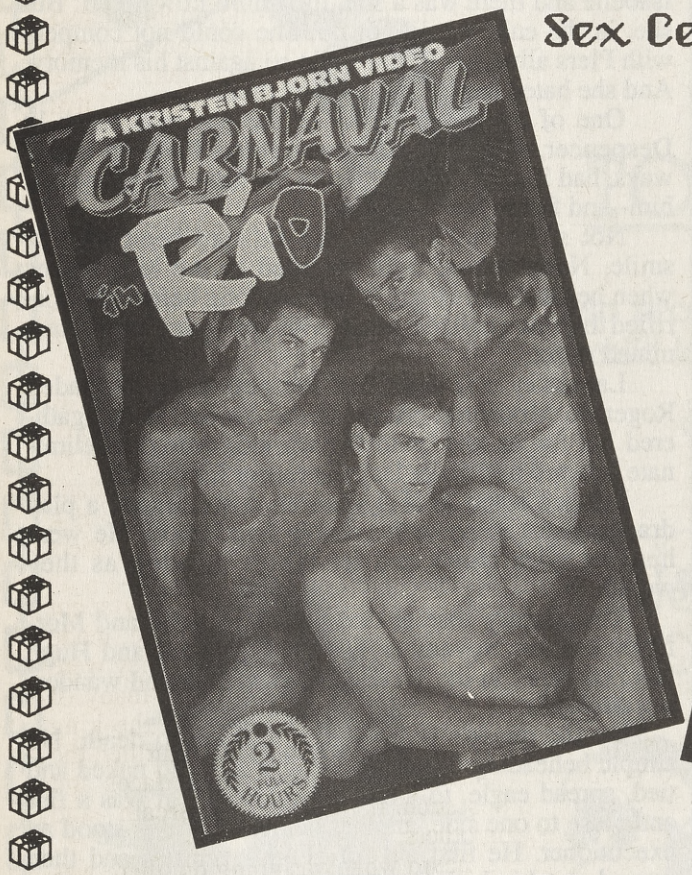
Philip took action. He supplied the angry English barons with money for a rebellion. It worked and Piers was forced into exile while Edward was made a figurehead.

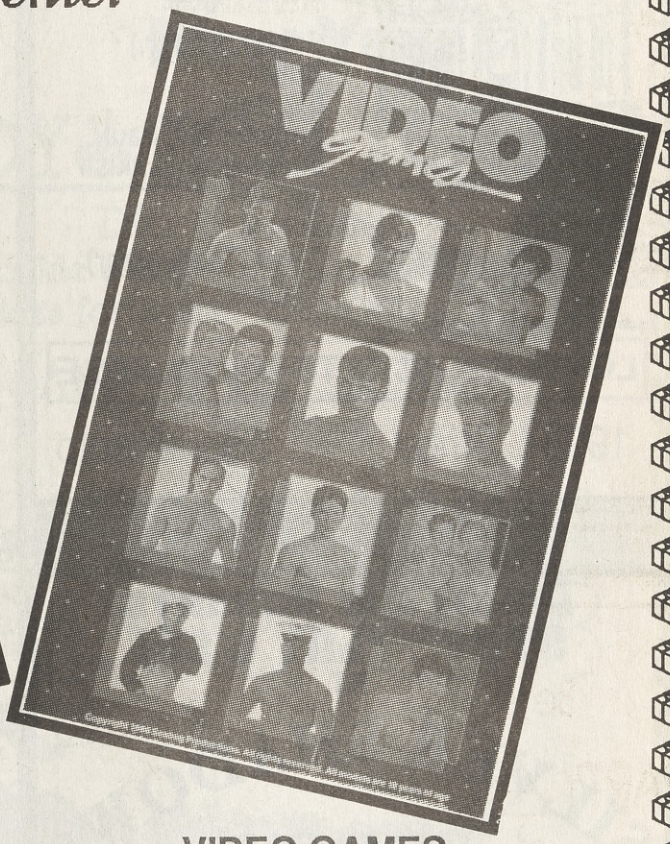
Shortly, Piers and Edward could stand separation no longer and Piers returned to the king's waiting arms. The barons were in a mood for compromise. Isabelle, however, was not. She hated her husband and Piers and vowed to have her revenge on them both. She traveled

Continued on Page Fourteen

Season's Greetings

"Visist Santa's Sex Center"





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HISTORY . . . Continued From Page Twelve

the kingdom, playing the role of the poor offended wife, and she did it very well. From highest lords to lowest commons, sympathy for her swept the land, and the country went to war against the king.

Edward had few friends and fewer resources and, within a short time, the rebels captured him and killed Piers who was beheaded by the Earl of Lancaster, Isabelle's lover.

Edward was nearly a prisoner. His every move was watched. For awhile, he sought something from Isabelle and there was a son, the future Edward III. But she, in the end, would not do. She could not compete with Piers alive, nor could so do so against his memory. And she hated her husband all the more.

One of the great barons of the day was Hugh le Despencer. His son, who resembled Piers in many ways, had it as his duty to watch the king. He did watch him--and fell in love with him.

Not since Pier's death had Edward been seen to smile. Nonetheless, light returned to the king's eyes when he was with Hugh. It was not long before the horrified barons realized what was going on and determined to act.

Lancaster was dead, but the new baronial leader, Roger de Mortimer, who was the queen's lover, gathered his forces and, with French aid, vowed to eliminate Edward and make Isabelle regent for her son.

Edward acted as if it were all some dream, a play dragging out to some inevitable conclusion. He went hunting with Hugh and let things develop as they would.

The country rose as one behind Isabelle and Mortimer and, on November 16, 1326, Edward and Hugh were captured in the West Country of England wandering aimlessly.

By the queen's order, Hugh was put to death. No simple beheading this time. He was stripped naked and tied, spread eagle, to a tall ladder. Before it was a fire and close to one side, another ladder on which stood an executioner. He first cut off Hugh's genitals and then carved out his bowels. Both were hurled to the first below. The queen sat close by and watched it all.

As to Edward, king no longer, he, as Edward Carnarvon, was taken, first to Kenilworth Castle, then to Mortimer's castle of Berkeley. He had not a friend, not an inch of land he could claim, not a coin. No royal dignity was accorded him, no semblance of human consideration.

He who had loved beautiful clothes was given only a robe of poorest wool. Where once he had eaten the choicest foods, now it was pig slops. In Berkeley his room or cell was over the charnelhouse and his jailors called him loathsome names. We can imagine what they were.

One night three men came for him. He was stripped and tied down to a heavy wooden table. Rough hands held his ankles, drawing his legs back until his thighs touched his belly and chest. Then, a poker, heated red hot, was thrust into his rectum. He died that way in a monstrous and obscene parody. No one seemed to care. It was not a king in the public mind who had been executed. It was a homosexual.

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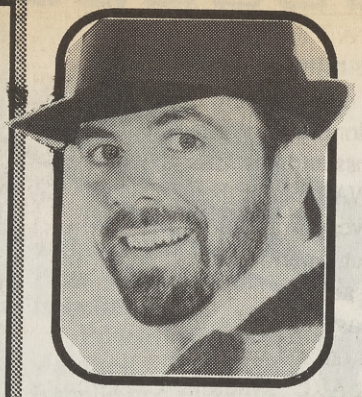

THE NEXT WAVE

by Douglas N. Lewis

"But You Look So Good!"

No statement has been such a source of contrasting and contradictory feelings within me than that one. It's usually spoken by someone I know, someone who is trying to say the right thing and be as supportive as possible. Someone who knows of my having AIDS Related Complex and who wants to help in whatever way they can. I realize that it must be very difficult for a person who cares about you to find something, anything, that will not sound patronizing or trite to someone suffering from ARC or AIDS, so I appreciate the gesture though it makes me feel so strange. It's just that I have a hard time reconciling the fact that I can feel so bad and look as if nothing is wrong. "But you look so good" awakens all kinds of fears and angers that are usually just on the periphery of my conscious thought.

My response to a friend or family member who tells me how good I look is usually to say "thank you" and to change the subject as quickly as possible. I could tell them about my T-cell count, the fatigue and nausea and lightheadedness I experience, the fears and occasional depression that all but envelope me, but I am usually too busy thanking God for the slow progress of this disease within me. I could also tell them that this wonderful color in my face is mostly the by-product of eczema, something I never had to deal with until my immune system was compromised, and not something I inherited from a day at the beach. I'm pleased that my outward appearance hasn't yet caught up with my inward struggle. But I'm still questioned as to why it takes me so long to get around. I'm grilled as to why I don't want to go out as often as I used to or might even want to now. My employers look at me with suspicion when I tell them that I cannot work at the pace I did before and that I won't be able to continue working at all. How could somebody who looks so healthy be so weak and unable to live the life I lived before the onset of the AIDS virus?

I am very grateful for being as healthy as I am.

The fact of the matter is, I am sick, seriously sick, and my outward appearance seems to contradict that fact. It's not that I feel as if people don't believe my diagnosis; I'm sure they do. It's just that most people don't know anything

Continued on Page Seventeen

about ARC, and they relate AIDS to people who are hollow-eyed, very thin, and very often have KS obviously and unmistakable on their person. The press has done a very good job of getting that image across and has virtually ignored the HIV+ and PWARCs out there. Don't get me wrong; I am very grateful for being has healthy as I am. But when it comes to things like insurance, disability, and just being taken seriously, it is easy to forget the statistics and the gauntlet I'm on and will face in the future (the "Oh, it's just ARC" syndrome). I still think there is a lot of room for hope and help for someone in my position, but I don't kid myself about where this diagnosis is leading. The slow march of HIV infection within my life has been too forceful and intense for me to think otherwise. I try not to give in to those kinds of thoughts, but they are there like an insistent shadow that sometimes blocks out the illumination of hope. So it's strange for me to accept the trivializing of what's going on within me.

I still think there is a lot of room for hope

Of course, anybody who is HIV+, or who has ARC or AIDS, knows all too well how serious the problem is. But I am afraid that an insurance doctor will take one look at me and deny me insurance because of "how good I look." One look at my medical history over the last couple of years or so and the facts are incontrovertible--I am in trouble here, as are thousands of others. The fact is, with all the new drug therapies and new research, the line between ARC and AIDS is blurring to the point of disappearing. A person does not have to be diagnosed full-blown AIDS to be recognized as being very ill any longer. There are new federal and state (not all states) guidelines that have finally accepted ARC as a serious problem and one that cannot be discriminated against. Given the cloud of ignorance and bigotry that has surrounded AIDS from the very beginning, this is quite an improvement, albeit late in its development.

I am happy to be alive. I am grateful for the small gift of health that marks my appearance. I just wish those people who know someone with HIV infection and ARC, who want to be supportive and are not sure how, who care enough to want to help but who don't know enough to really make a difference, would read a little more and educate themselves as to what is going on in the AIDS community. It's only through education that we can say the "right" things, make the right moves, and truly love those of our society who need that love.

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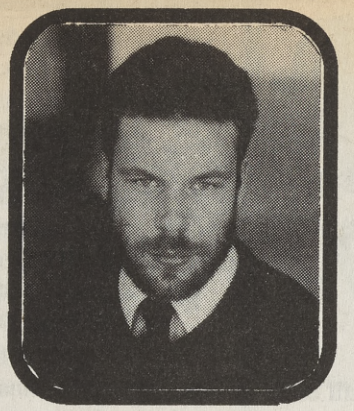

IN MY OPINION

by Mel Dahl

The bad news is we got clobbered election day. The good news is that that is about to change.

Five cities (three in California and one each in Washington and Ohio) had ballot issues important to gay people. We lost all five. We need to grieve for a while, give each other a hug or two, and then get ready for the next campaign.

There is, however, good news. Ten years ago, gay-rights legislation was on the ballot in Oregon and we lost, four to one. Ten years ago, gay-rights legislation was one the ballot in Miami and we love, five to one. Last year, gay-rights legislation was on the ballot in Oregon again and we lost 53% to 47%. This year we lost in Tacoma, Washington by 47% to 53% and in Concord, California by 56% to 44%.

The trend is obvious. While we are still consistently losing at the polls, we have in ten years succeeded in turning nearly 30% of the voters around. In another year or two, gay rights will be on the ballot and we will begin to consistently win. There are a number of lessons to be drawn.

First of all, I would not have picked the decade of the 80s as a decade in which gay liberation would make a lot of progress. Ronald Reagan was elected and re-elected and succeeded in bringing a lot of those blathering idiots of the Moral Majority into government with him. AIDS presented us with the biggest crisis (both in terms of our personal losses and in terms of public relations) of the movement's history. The Supreme Court held--twice--that the Bill of Rights does not include gay people. Yet in spite of that, our progress has been dramatic. We are a resilient community.

Second, if one looks at the figures for America as a whole, one finds that approximately half the voters support us and half oppose us. However, if one looks at the breakdown by age, a clear pattern emerges. Over 80% of voters age 50 and above are anti-gay. Over 70% of voters between 18 and 40 are pro-gay. In other words, it is just a matter of time as the older generation continues to relinquish power to the children of the 60s until our cause becomes one with majority support. What does this prove?

We have long maintained that prejudice is a by-product of ignorance, and that when people get to know the objects of their prejudice as individuals, the prejudice tends to disappear. The truth of that premise is clearly demonstrated by the above statistics. A generation ago, there were very few openly gay individuals, and nobody knew anything about homosexuality except the invective of preachers, the writings on bathroom walls, and the jokes in locker rooms. Since few people had the opportunity to meet and know gay people, irrational prejudice was allowed to rule unchallenged.

Our movement is now a generation old. Virtually everybody knows someone gay. There are openly gay pastors, legislators, judges, police officers, lawyers, doctors, actors, scientists, and college professors. One of our rallying cries is, "We are everywhere!" and it's true. Quite simply, the younger generation no longer harbors the hatred toward gay people that their parents did, because they have had the opportunity to get to know us. They knew that we do most of the same things they do, that we have hopes, dreams, desires, and aspirations. They work in the office with us, and play basketball at the gym with us, and swap jokes with us. Yes, there is still a lot of prejudice out there, but the intensity is rapidly fading, thanks to those gay and lesbian folk who support the movement

Continued on Page Twenty

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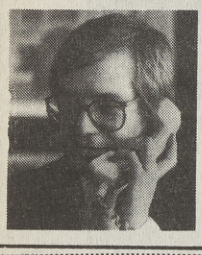

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MY OPINION . . . Continued from Page Eighteen

just by living their lives and being themselves, bless 'em.

Finally, we are still losing, but we could be winning. We are literally within striking distance of many of our goals. The domestic-partners ordinance was defeated by 1,600 votes (in San Francisco) in a race in which only 30% of the people voted. That means that if only 1,600 more gay people had gotten their fannies to the polls on election day, we would have won. The thing that is so disappointing is not that we are still losing elections, but that we are losing elections we could be winning.

We would do well to adopt the strategy of Jerry Falwell: "Get 'em saved, get 'em baptised, and get 'em registered to vote." People who are registered tend to vote. When you hear of someone coming out of the closet, make sure they fill out a voter's registration card. When a gay couple moves here from Iowa City, bring voter's registration cards to the housewarming party.

I feel good, because I believe the tide is turning. I believe we are about to enter the gay nineties. The sooner we work out the few remaining bugs (like 30% voter turnout when domestic partners is on the ballot) the sooner we will see real change.

HOROSCOPES

by Dr. Pat Larr

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): Visions of sugarplums dance in your head when that special someone dangles his ornaments in your face.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): A great new year is waiting for you. Yes, you start the year off with a bang.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): Lucky you. The stars say you'll get everything on your Christmas list. Enjoy!

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): An office Christmas party leads to romance. Christmas morning you'll have a big package to unwrap.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): The Grinch gets your goat this Christmas. But don't be down. A little Christmas cheer should pick you right up.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): Maybe you should join a Christmas club next year. A thin wallet doesn't make anyone's Christmas very merry.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): A surprise stocking stuffer has you up and coming this Christmas. Little things mean a lot to that special someone.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): A Christmas wish comes true for you this month. A warm and cuddly bear type cuddles up to your fire.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): A long-term affair comes to an head under the misletoe. The stars say it was destined to happen, and now it does with smashing results.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): Santa's elves work overtime this year to make your Christmas special. Big things come in small packages!

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): That special someone longs to put a lump of coal in your stocking. Try to get some Christmas spirit and maybe he won't.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): It's your favorite time of year. Time to don your gay apparel. Yes, you'll sleigh them under the misletoe this year.

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If anyone knows of a PWA hospitalized during the holiday season,please contact Robby Becker at 373-0035 so he can arrange a visit from Santa and Mz. Claws.

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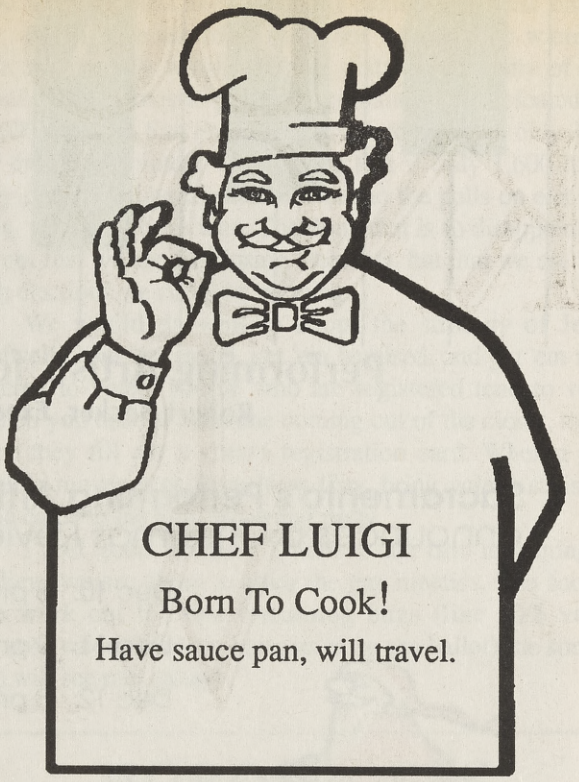

CHEF LUIGI

Born To Cook!

Have sauce pan, will travel.

Don we now our gay apparel and all that stuff for 'tis the season to be jolly. Keeping to the holiday tradition and in hopes of kissing my favorite Santa Claus, this month's recipes are based on the KISSS theory of cooking. Keep It Simple, Simpler, Simplest! All are designed to be prepared quickly to leave more time for important things like shopping for that special bauble for your favorite chef (my ring size is 9 1/2) or getting ready to make the most of Santa's visit--after all, he won't "come" again for another year, poor thing!

TING A LINGS
(No-Bake Cookies)

8 oz pack. semi-sweet chocolate chips
1/2 cup peanut butter
3/4 cup peanuts
6 cups cornflakes

Slowly melt the chocolate chips and peanut butter in a double boiler. Add peanuts and cornflakes. Mix well. Place teaspoonful by teaspoonful on cookies sheet. Chill until firm, real firm. (And well all understand what "firm" means.) Recipe can be adjusted for chocolate or peanut freaks.

CHRISTMAS HOR D'OEUVRE TREE

Secure curly endive on a styrofoam cone with toothpicks to form a green tree base. Select a colorful array of cheese cubes, pepperoni pieces, shrimps, olives, cherry tomatoes, mushrooms, etc. and pierce with toothpicks and

Continued on Page Twenty-Four

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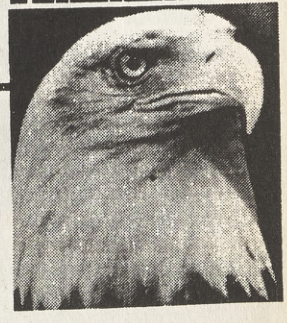

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LUIGI . . . Continued from Page Twenty-Two

"decorate" in a fashionable pattern on the tree. The toothpicks with the colorful ends work best.

QUICK SPICY CIDER

8 cups (2 qts) apple cider
2 teaspoons whole allspice
2 teaspoons whole cloves
4 cinnamon sticks

Pour apple cider into an electric percolator. Place allspice, cloves, and cinnamon sticks (break if necessary) in percolator basket. Brew like you would coffee. Serve in mugs. 16 1/2cup servings.

Alternate methods: Cider can also be made in a large saucepan. Secure the spices in a piece of cheesecloth; add to cider. Simmer, covered, 10 to 15 minutes. Remove spice bad and serve hot.

For a large amount, a 30-cup percolator works nicely. Either double or triple recipe, depending on amount desired.

SALMON BALL

2 cups (1 lb) drained, canned salmon, flaked, skin & bones removed.
1 pack. (8 oz) softened cream cheese
1 teaspoon instant minced onion or 1 tablespoon finely chopped onion
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon prepared horseradish
1/4 tablespoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon prepared horseradish
1/4 teaspoon liquid smoke (optional)
1/2 cup chopped pecans or almonds
3 tablespoons chopped parsley

In a large mixing bowl, combine all ingredients except pecans and parsley. Mix well. Refrigerate at least four hours or until firm enough to shape into a ball. Combine pecans and parsley in a shallow pan or on waxed paper. Roll the salmon ball in the pecan/parsley mixture. Refrigerate at least an hour or until chilled through. Serve with crackers. (Makes a 5-inch ball.)

Recipe can be halved for a smaller ball. If desired, omit the chopped pecans and use only chopped parsley; increase amount to six tablespoons. Or, omit the parsley and use about 2/3 cup chopped pecans.

During this holiday season, be happy, be safe, and hug that special someone a little tighter; and if there isn't currently a "special someone" in your life just now, contact Chef Luigi c/o Patlar.

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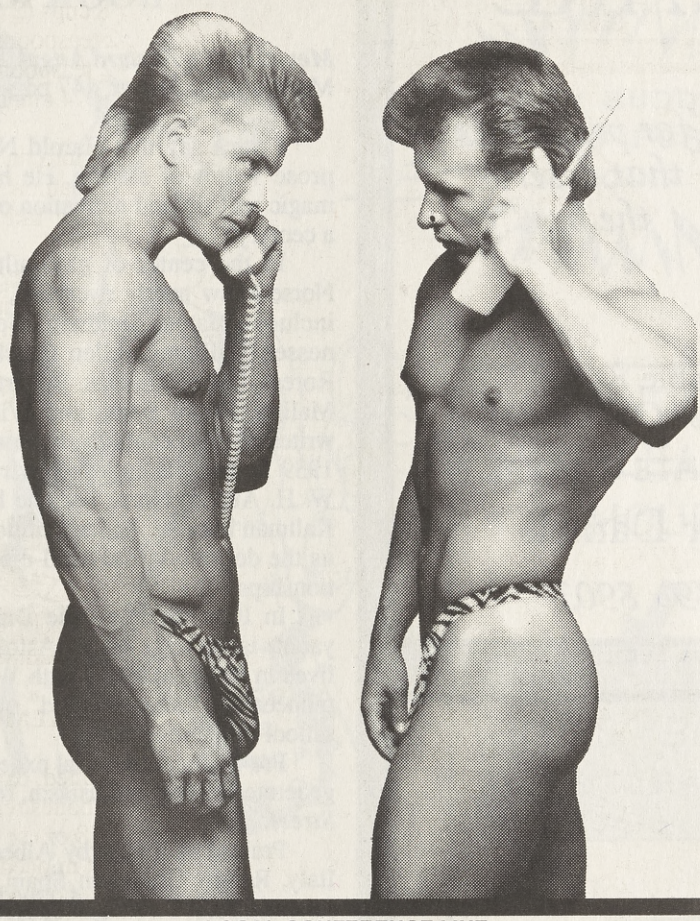

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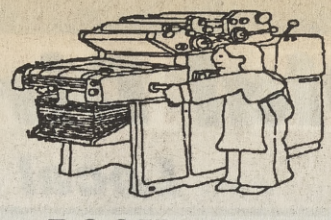

BOOK REVIEW

Memoirs of a Bastard Angel by Harold Norse (William Morrow), Hardcover, 447 pages, $22.95.

Critics say that Harold Norse is now emerging as a prose writer of stature. He has been acclaimed for his magic realism and recreation of the cultural history of half a century.

In the center of gay culture for five decades now, Norse knew nearly everyone, when most were unknown, including James Baldwin, Gore Vidal, Anais Nin, Tennessee Williams, Allen Ginsberg, Marlon Brando, Ned Rorem, Dylan Thomas, Robert DeNiro, John Cage, Judith Malina, Julian Beck, and William Carlos Williams. He writes of them candidly, humorously, and affectionately. In 1939 he and his college boyfriend, Chester Kallman, met W. H. Auden; Norse became his friend and secretary and Kallman became Auden's lifelong companion. Norse gives us the definitive first-hand disclosures of these early relationships.

In Italy he meets the Duke of Windsor on Onassis' yacht, is brought by an Astor heiress to Paris where he lives in the Beat Hotel with William Burroughs and helps pioneer the "cutup method" of writing, and also founds a school of painting there.

Pre-publication serial excerpts from the ***Memoirs*** have generated strong enthusiasm, most notably in ***Christopher Street.***

Praised as a poet by Alberto Moravia and Pasolini in Italy, Robert Graves in Spain, James Jones in Paris, and Jane and Paul Bowles in Tangier, Norse repatriates after 15 years of exile, forms a literary friendship with Charles Bukowski in Los Angeles, and lifts weights with Arnold Schwarzenegger. In San Francisco in the 70s, his work inspires the gay cultural revolution; in the 80s he writes his Memoirs there.

"Powerful," says ***Publisher's Weekly***. "Magically evocative and visual, this book is fascinating!" raves William Burroughs. "It can be read as a novel, horrific and hilarious, with a cast of stars. Every page breathes with the writer's presence. Bravo!" Andrei Codrescu, reviewer for National Public Radio's ***All Things Considered***, also raves: "Harold Norse's beautiful Memoirs [are] going to be right by my bedside with Faubert and Marquez. It's an exalted work."

"A crucial evocation of a vast era which has vanished forever," wrote Ned Rorem. "I enjoyed the ***Memoirs*** tremendously," wrote Anais Nin of the early memoirs on Tennessee Williams, Marlon Brando, and Allen Ginsberg. "So well written . . . so honest . . . alive and powerful."

And Armistead Maupin enthused: "Harold Norse has lived a life beyond my powers of imagination."

James Baldwin, in his posthumous Preface to the book, said: "If light ever enters the hearts of men, Harold Norse will be one of those who have helped to set it there."

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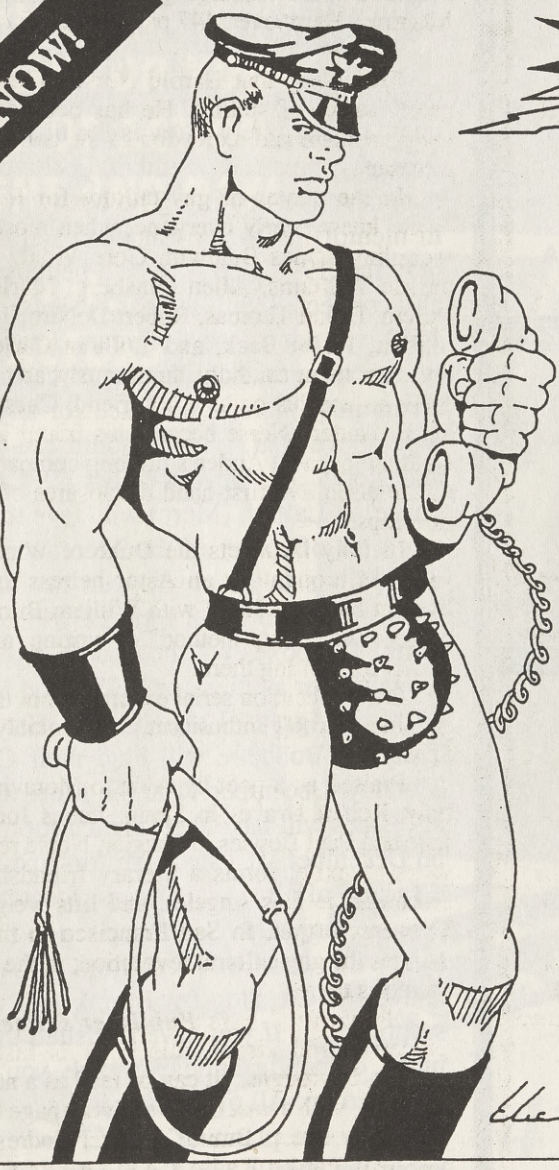

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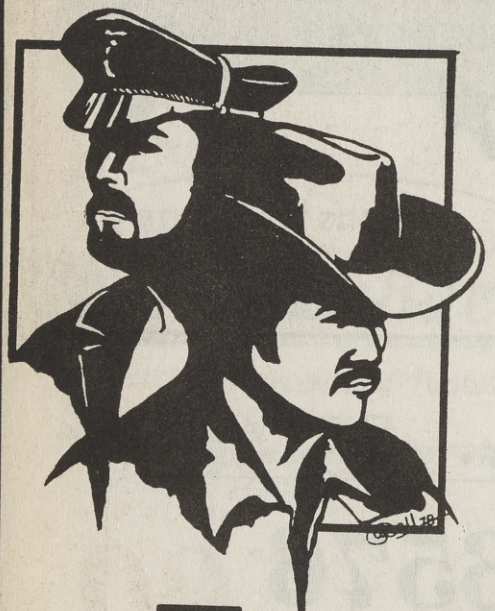

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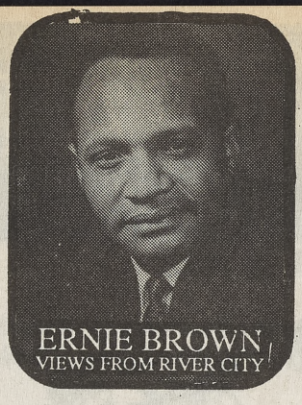
Chicago

a bar for men in leather and levis



CARRYINGS-ON IN GAY SACRAMENTO

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Well, we have reached that time of year again. The time of year for making amends, gift giving, renewed friendship, understanding, and loving. This is not the time for back-biting, hostility, harassment; we have had too much of that lately. Now is the time to stop, take inventory of yourself. Remember, positive anything is better than negative nothing. The best way to keep good acts in memory is to refresh them with new ones. I only pray that 1990 proves to be a better year. Being personally connected with the bar business, I can tell you that 1989 was not the best of years. I saw too much hostility, resentment, back-biting & discrimination. In our community there is no place for any of those. We are way above that, or we should be. Enough preaching and gloom . . . On December 10, Larry Ross (Townehouse) & LaKish (Merc) will have their annual toys for tots kick-off party at the Mercantile Saloon. Anyone who brings in an unwrapped toy to the Townehouse between December 8 thru 22 will receive a free well drink. Toy boxes will be at both places . . . LaKish did it again. Her auction for MCC food baskets raised over $700. Congrats, LaKish . . . Ernie Brown (Yours Truly) & Bobbette will hold their Christmas party on Monday, December 11 at the Merc. Check bar for time . . . Faces will have their annual formal Christmas party on December 10. Check bar for time. Remember, this is a formal affair . . . Partners, located at 24th and 2nd Avenue, are turning out some good vittles these days. Every day Mon thru Fri, from 10 AM til 10 PM. Sat and Sun 1-10. Stop by. I think you will be beautifully surprised . . . If you haven't visited the Townehouse for lunch, dinner, or Sunday brunch, you've missed a treat . . . Listen up. All of the bars in Sacto have informed me that they are planning a big New Year's bash. I don't know the details yet. So check with your favorite bar for time of events . . . Joseph's has a big New Year's show planned for Sun, Dec 31 entitled: "Success--Welcome to the Gay 90s." Doors open at 9 PM, show starts at 10. $5 cover charge . . . Faces Two (or is it "Too"?), in Stockton, are sponsoring a bus every Sat evening (free) which leaves Faces in Sacto at 8:30 PM . . . We are in the process on planning a bus trip (overnite) to Russian River. If you are interested in joining this bus trip, let me know . . . I would like to wish all of my readers of the past eight years a very, very Merry Christmas and a Happy 1990.

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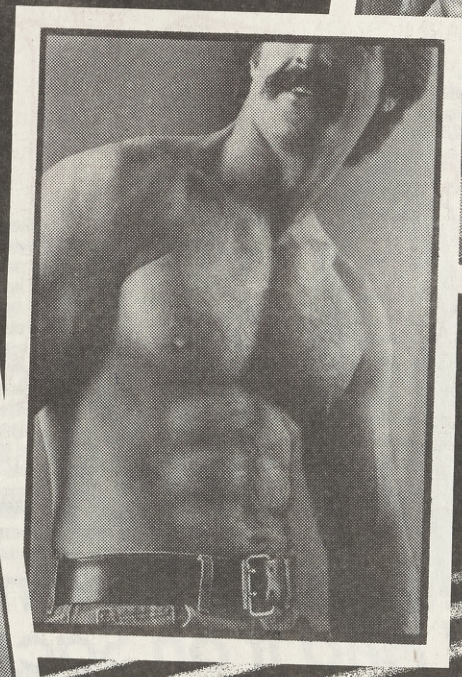

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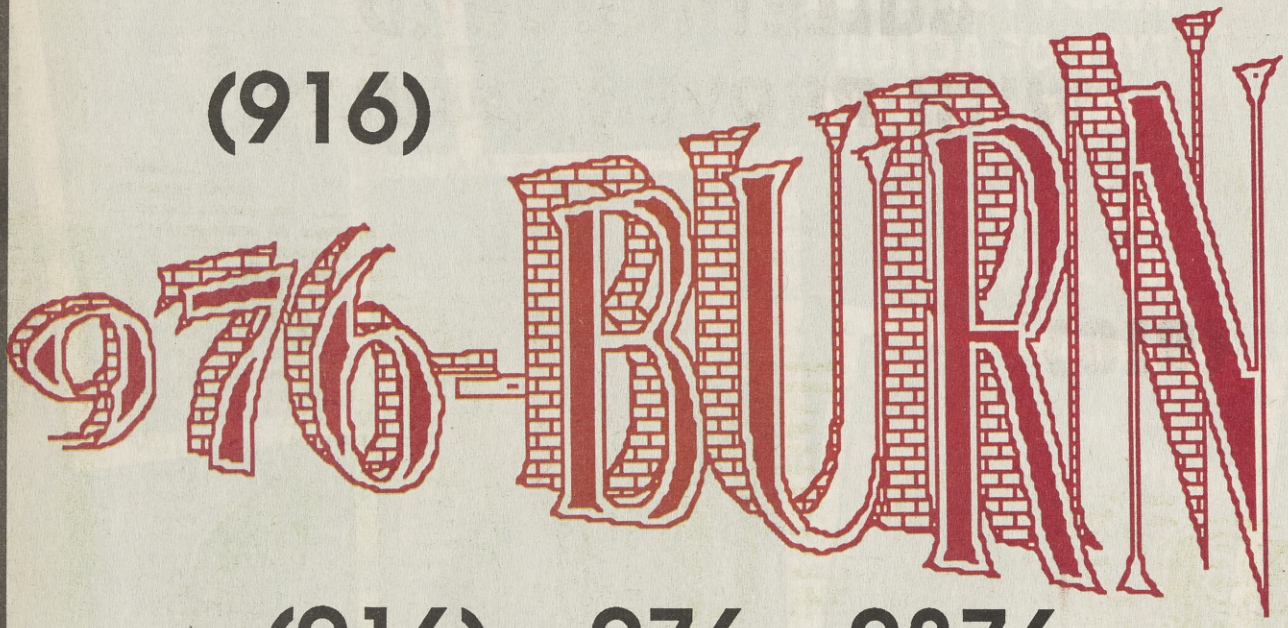

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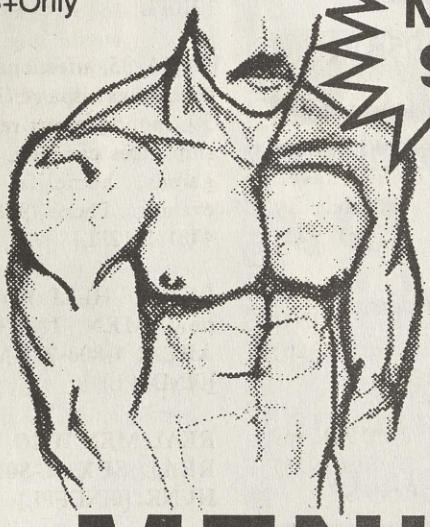

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GWM, mid-aged, seeks fun-loving younger guy with serious side for friendship, company, possible relationship. I like sparkling eyes, mischievous grins, outdoors, quiet cuddling, sunsets. I value honesty, compassion, caring, intelligence, open-mindedness. I'm a great dad who needs a son to care for/about. If you think you might "fit the bill" write to: Patlar Ad 6-02, The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

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GWM, 34, 6'1", 175#, dark blond/hazel, handsome, swimmer's build, HIV neg., versatile, non-drinker, health/fitness nut, gentle, quiet, outdoorsy, seeks similar sincere man. Write Patlar Ad PL-151, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822. [912PL]

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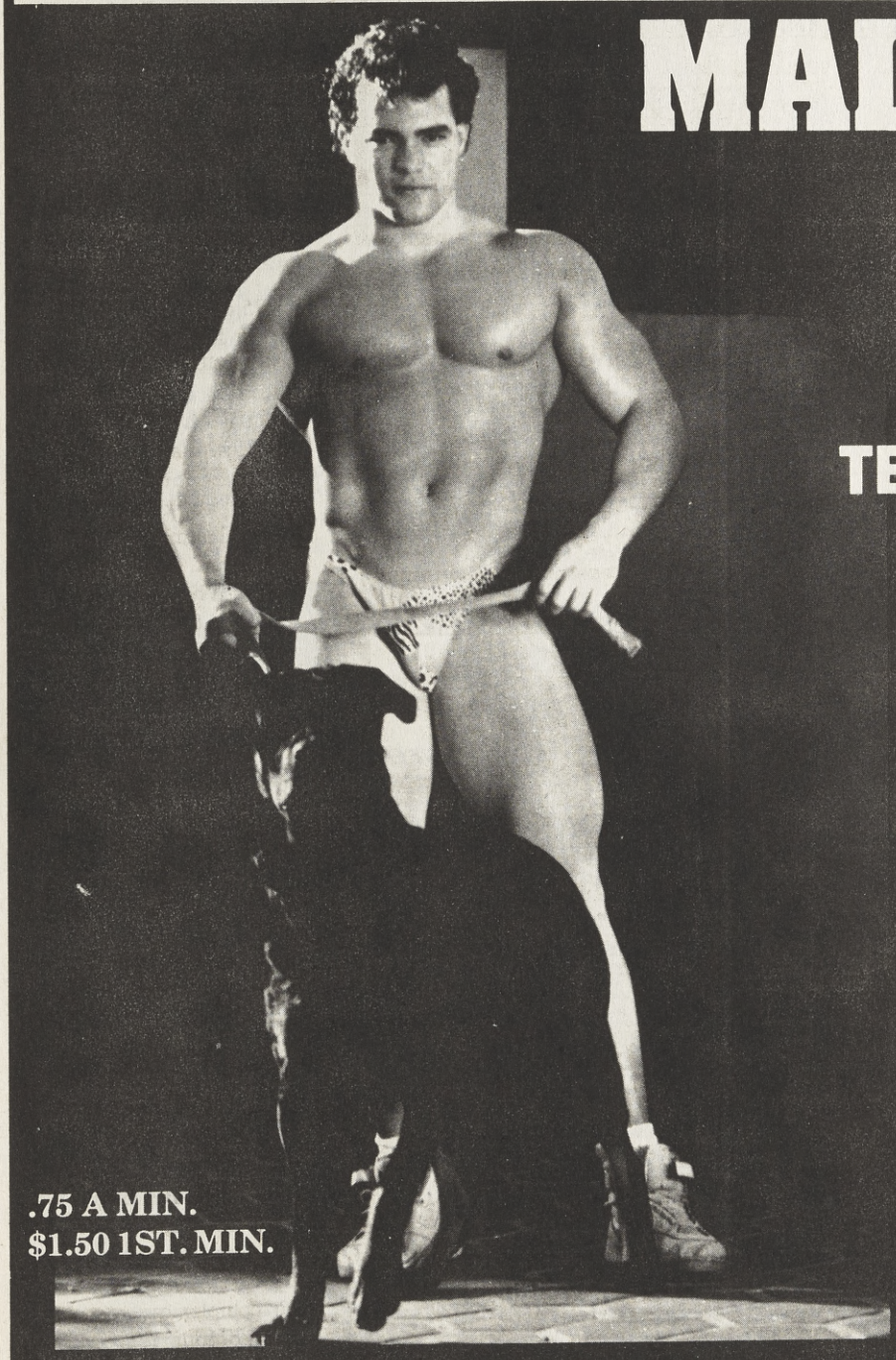

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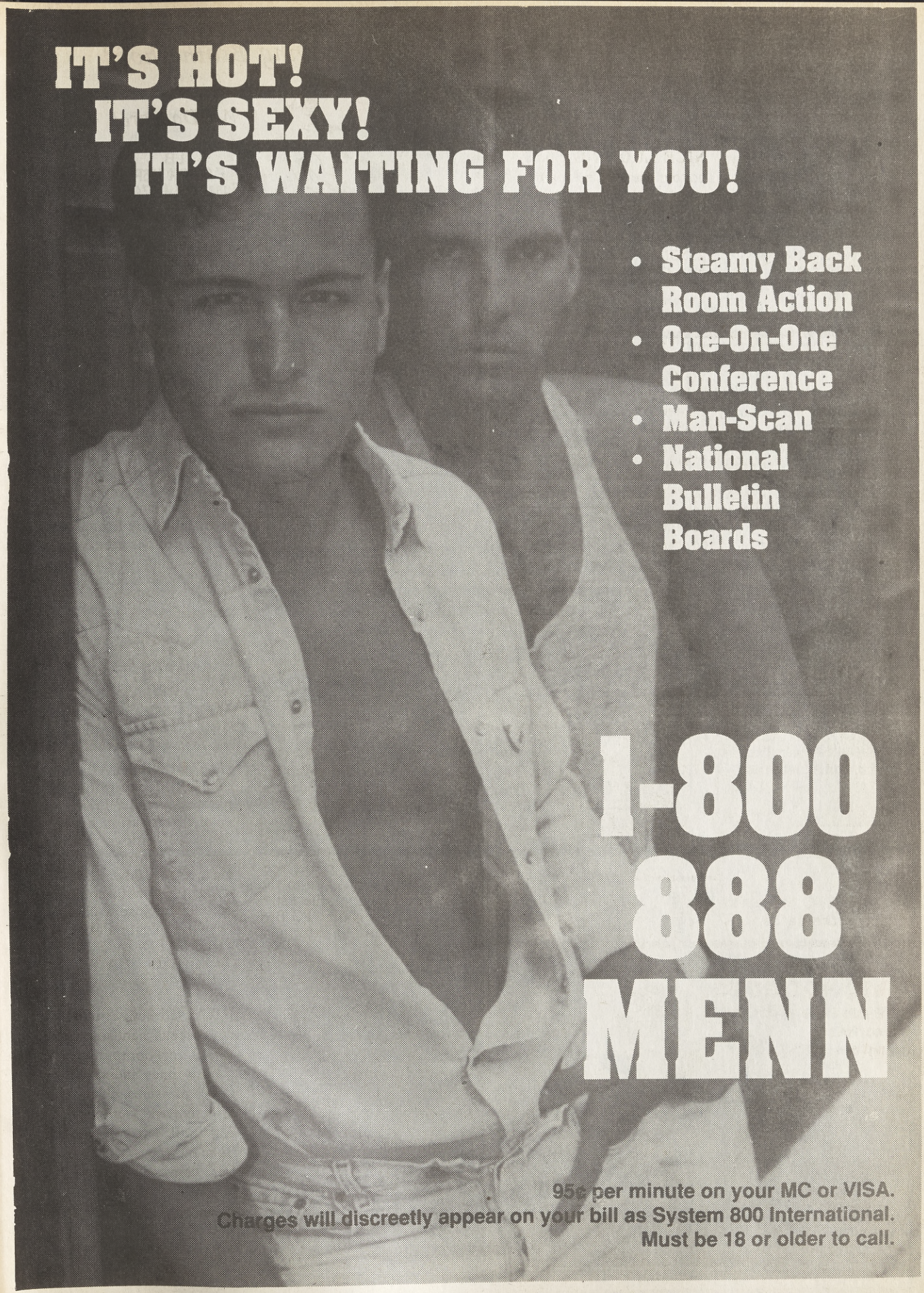
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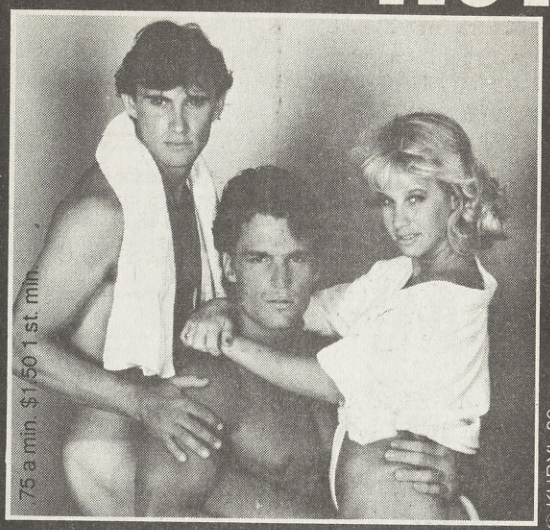

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